LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 386

Tirana, August 30, 1935.

Confidential.

SUBJECT: Reported Movement of Munitions into Albania by Italy.

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The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that the British Charge d'Affaires, Wolstan B. C. Weld Forester, called today and told me confidentially that he had just received a telegram from the British Legation at Athens reporting the publication there of an article announcing disorders on the Greco-Albanian frontier and stating that Italy was engaged in transporting munitions from the Island of Saseno to be used in occupying Albania in conjunction with the start next month of hostilities in Ethiopia.

When

When the British Chargé d'Affaires mentioned the matter at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this morning he was assured by the Secretary General, Ekrem Bey Vlora, that such a story could not possibly be true. In my opinion the report has all the aspects of the typical alarmist stories so frequently cropping out in the Greek press and is deserving of no credence. I wish to mention, however, that Albanians are rather disturbed over Mussolini's Ethiopian pretensions, thinking that Italy might turn next to Albania and saying that if Mussolini desires revenge for Adowa he might likewise desire it for the rather similar defeat at Valona in 1920.

Respectfully yours,

Cloyce K. Huston
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

Copy to Rome and Athens.

CKH/sjs
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